THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Two persons involved in the incident were later identified as teacher who were deputed by the Directorate of Census to conduct Census in the area of CGO Complex. They had also drawn, in the course of their duties, a rough map of the area. As they were performing their official duties, no action was taken against them.

Linking of police establishments

2749. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for linking all police estabishments in the country through a satellite and wire-less system under a project named POLNET;

(b) if so, what is its present status;

(c) whether seven of the 28 bidders had been short listed;

(d) whether the bidders were further short-listed on grounds of a technology to be adopted; and

(e) whether the technology sought to be rejected is the latest state-of-the-art technology, if so, the reasons for its rejection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The tendering process for POLNET began with Pre Qualification of Bidders for which 18 Vendors applied. Eleven were pre qualified for issuing POLNET main tender document. The POLNET main tender has been responded by nine vendors out of the eleven pre qualified vendors. Technical Bids of only 4 bidders were found acceptable and it was decided to open their Financial bids. Financial bids of three of these bidders have been opened on 23.2.2001 as the fourth bidder did not extend Bank guarantee and offer validity.